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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC #02120-84
4 April 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: Graham E. Fuller
National Intelligence Officer for the Near East
and South Asia

SUBJECT: Libyan Activities in North Africa

1. Attached is a brief rundown of recent Libyan activities in North Africa as you requested. It was compiled by DDI/NESA. I would just like to add a few additional thoughts on this problem.

2. I am increasingly disturbed at the continuing pace of destabilizing events which stem from Qadhafi. Fortunately the majority of his actions are usually poorly conceived and have limited affect. Nonetheless it is a constant irritant and a continuing threat to the general stability of the region.

3. As in the case of Syria, I doubt that the Soviets are specifically directing Qadhafi's activities--and indeed many of them the Soviets do not even like. But Qadhafi remains a card for the Soviets--a foothold--and the destabilizing effects of his activities can and do serve Soviet interests in a general sense. Qadhafi, of course, pays cash for the Soviet arms he gets, and it is his oil money which enables him to carry out such an ambitious program.

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5. The more I look at Qadhafi, the more I am convinced that there are no factors or tools which will enable anybody to change Qadhafi. The only way to gain relief from these activities is his downfall. Qadhafi is surrounded by enemies, internal and external.

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There is almost no chance that the exiles here, or propaganda there, or a few economic sanctions somewhere else, in isolation is really going to do anything significant.

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-- Tougher economic sanctions--at least from the US--would be required, if we mean business. If we are unwilling to do that, we have few other earnest of good intentions to present to other Arab partners.

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Graham E. Fuller
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Attachment: a/s

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